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**Committee for Programme and Coordination**
**Fifty-seventh session**
5-30 June 2017
Agenda item 7
**Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fifty-seventh session**

# Draft report

*Rapporteur*: Mr. Rodrigo Otávio **Penteado Moraes** (Brazil)

**Addendum**

## Programme questions: proposed programme budget for the biennium 2018-2019

(*Item 3 (a)*)

### Proposed revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (article VII and annex)

1. At its 13th meeting, on 13 June 2017, the Committee for Programme and Coordination considered the report of the Secretary-General on proposed revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (article VII and annex) (A/72/73/Rev.1).

2. It was recalled that, at its fifty-fifth session, the Committee had decided to defer consideration of the proposed revisions to article VII, Evaluation, of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation to its fifty-seventh session and had recommended that the General Assembly request the Secretary-General to propose further revisions to article VII and the annex to the Regulations and Rules, taking into account relevant resolutions of the Assembly. The General Assembly endorsed that recommendation in its resolution 70/8 of 13 November 2015.

3. Representatives of the Secretary-General introduced the report and responded to questions raised during its consideration by the Committee.

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**Discussion**

4. A delegation sought clarification on the role of the Central Evaluation Unit, as referenced in the report, and what was its role in connection with the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS). A delegation sought clarification on the nature of the revisions proposed, while highlighting that many changes reflected the substitution of the term "medium-term plan" with the term "strategic framework", with the exception of the insertion of new regulation 7.4; and on whether the revisions had been mandated, in particular the proposed changes to the annex, designated in bold, on page 12 (the insertion of "objectives and"); page 14 (the insertion of "Indicators should ideally be strategic, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound"); and page 15 (the replacement of "Central Monitoring and Inspection Unit" with "Department of Management"). It was further requested that the resolutions providing justification for the proposed revisions be made available to the Committee (namely, resolutions 48/218B, 58/269 and 67/236), as well as the revisions to the Regulations and Rules contained in ST/SGB/2000/8 and ST/SGB/2016/6.

5. Several delegations broadly supported the changes and underlined the factual nature of all proposed changes, adding that those changes had been under discussion since 2013. Furthermore, the delegations welcomed the proposed changes in the annex on the revised definition of the term "indicators of achievement", but indicated that they "should be" strategic, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound (or "SMART"), and not "ideally be" as proposed. The delegations expressed the view that the revision addressed earlier requests of the Committee regarding the quality of indicators to be included in the results-based management framework, so as to foster the accountability of the Secretariat.

6. In respect of the proposed insertion of regulation 7.4, several delegations expressed some concern regarding the proposed inclusion of the new regulation. Notably, the delegations highlighted the OIOS reports currently before the Committee on the evaluation of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and on the thematic evaluation of the regional commissions, in which OIOS referred to and drew broad conclusions regarding resources when the scope of the evaluations had been narrow. The delegations sought clarification on whether the endorsement by the Committee of the proposed new regulation 7.4 would result in increased resource requirements in those two cases, as well as in future cases.

**Conclusions and recommendations**

**7. The Committee reaffirmed its role of verifying that the programmes of activities of the Organization were implemented in line with the legislative mandates and that the full implementation of regulations and rules should be ensured.**

**8. The Committee recommended that the General Assembly approve the proposed revisions to the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (article VII and annex), subject to the following modifications:**

**Regulation 7.4**

**The Committee did not agree with the recommendation to insert a new regulation 7.4 and recommended that it not be included.**

**Annex II**

***Monitoring***

**Replace the definition of "Monitoring" with the following text:**

**Monitoring is the *periodic determination* by the head of a department or office of the actual delivery of final outputs in comparison with the commitments for the delivery of outputs set out in the programme budget as approved by the General Assembly.**